FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

" Iox " the intelligent correspondent of the Baltimor Sun, is generally correct in his statement of facts; and when, in advance of what is publicly known, he opines as to the views of the President and his Cabinet, he seems to speak ez cathedra. This gives more than ordinary importance to the letters of Ion, and especially to the one of the 17th instant, in which he says:

"The decision of the Secretary of the Interior on the subject of the distribution of subordinate offices in this city will us doubt be adopted by the Government and city will no doubt be adopted by the Government and become the practice of all the Executive Departments. Un-der this rule, demanded by members of Congress, the clerkships are to be distributed among the States in the proportion of their Federal representation.

All officers are, in fact, at the disposition of members of Congress, and they cannot retain the control of them

so well by a general scramble as by a fair distribution. They have insisted upon the establishment of the rule that the clerkships shall be distributed among the States in proportion to their federal numbers. Thus, they say, the eight hundred clerkships of the Executive offices will allow three or four clerks for each Congressional district. Congress wishes to have these three or four appointments as a sort of electioneering capital. Each member can promise these offices to their more active political friends.

"All efforts to obtain new appointments for the District of Columbia have been met by the objection that there are two hundred and twenty District clerks already; and it is further stated to applicants that the number of Distriet appointments must be reduced, in order to meet the terms of the new rule of equalization. The District of Columbia, with a number of inhabitants less than the representative ratio, will not be entitled under this strinmore than half a million of dollars. triet appointments must be reduced, in order to meet the gent rule to more than one or two clerks out of the whole

number of eight hundred.

number of eight hundred.

that this rule will not be insisted upon as to this District, even prospectively. It would be unjust to apply the rule to this District, though it would be very proper in regard to the States. The people of this District, and particularly of Washington, were brought here by their connexion with the Federal Government, here by their connexion with the Federal Government, and have been excluded from such privileges of citizenship as belong to inhabitants of the States, for the very purpose of enabling the Government to exercise her exclusive jurisdiction. The inhabitants of Washington, therefore, give up vital privileges for the benefit of the Government, and are entitled, for that reason, to receive from the Government an extraordinary share of official employment in this city."

With all due deference to the intelligence and devotion of the Secretary of the Interior to the public interest. which we readily concede to him, we can but think that that theory of reform which he purposes to introduce into the Executive departments of the Government is a great error, fraught with alarming evils, and will in practice work more fatally for the interests of Government than any scheme out of the multitudes that the spirit of reform has at different times engendered. It fails by every test of sound reasoning and safe experience; and in none more than by that safe, sound, and sagacious rule that governs men in their private business.

To equalize the distribution of clerkships in proportion to federal numbers would necessarily exclude from office a very large proportion of the most experienced, well trained, faithful, and efficient clerks in the public service; and their places would be supplied by raw recruits from the various Congressional districts of the Union.

It could not be otherwise than unfortunate for the public interest to have so many inexperienced and untrained men, though selected with the best care, introduced simultaneously into office. Unprepared, they would necessarily require a vast deal of tuition to qualify them for their duties; and this would devolve unavoidably upon the few experienced old clerks who might be spared by the operation of the rule.

When the public business is measured out to the full extent of the ability of a corps of competent clerks, what time have they to divert any portion aside from their own required duties to play schoolmasters to the initiates? Be it remembered, too, that this schooling is not for a week, or a month, or a year, but it extends to the period of qualification, and that regulated by the aptitude and industry of those under tuition. Who in the meantime is to do the work that belongs to the desks of the teachers? They cannot do the full measure of their task, and carry on the labor of teaching at the same time.

It follows, then, that upon the score of economy the theory is false. And upon the score of safety it is not less exceptionable. The vast amount of inexperienced and total lack of qualifications being brought into requiplex and important to the most simple and ordinary, would render their work for a long time unsafe, unreliable, and subversive of every sound principle for the due observance of a correct and prompt dispatch of public business. There could be no assurance of the faithful execution of the laws; there could be no reliance upon the accuracy of clerical statements, and the public treasury would be without that safe protection which is expected of wise legislation and faithful administration.

Under the most favorable and auspicious working of this reform, as it is termed, it could not be otherwise than had very bad. But when " all these offices are at the disposilion of members of Congress," and " each member can promise these offices to their more active political friends," what a monstrous perversion of a great and sacred principle of Government is proclaimed! What a stupendous engine of subornation and moral corruption does it countenance! It is to declare that these offices were not created in reference to the necessary and faithful administration of the Government, but were made to subserve political electioneering ends in the hands of members of Congress and for their especial benefit.

If this great outrage is to be perpetrated, because "they (the members of Congress) have insisted upon the establishment of the rule that the clerkships shall be distributed among the States in proportion to their federal number," why not let them make it imperative by an act of Congress, that it may have the sanction of law, and carry with it the tremendous responsibility for such a gaged in the court and, as perfect quiet prevailed, and there usurpation? Why shall the Executive branch of the Government give this dangerous boon to satisfy the clamor and scramble of the members of Congress? It is, offered apparently to propitiate the importunate knockings at the doors of the Departments.

There is in the declaration of the exponent of this principle so much that is shocking to the moral sense and the purity and safety of Government that we can but hope it will be abandoned by those who conceived the scheme, but who could surely never have traced its consequences to the baleful and inevitable results.

NOTE BY THE EDITORS.

In giving a place to the above, from a source friendly to the Administration, we must express a twenty miles, in two days and twenty hours, which is the doubt of the correctness of the statement of Ion. which has given occasion to the remarks of our correspondent. We take the Secretary of the Interior to be too judicious and too republican a statesman answered the most sanguine expectations concerning her, to establish a principle so subversive at once of the and has proved the Yankee notion that length of itself purity of elections and the public interest. If one Congressional candidate were to have an electioneering capital of four clerkships, his successor at the next election must be entitled to the same, and thus the changes in the Government bureaus would become biennial, and the wheel of official appointment be made to revolve with a rapidity destructive of all experience and all fitness for official duties, and detrimental in the highest degree to that branch of the public service. We see that in England a member of Parliament has been held corrupt and criminal for having promised an elector an office for his support; but to give to each of our candidates of the dominant party the privilege of four offices with which to tamper with voters, would be sanctioning a corruption in our representative Democracy which is held criminal in a representative Monarchy. But, as we have said above, we think too highly of the Secretary of the Interior and of the whole Admin- and the day of sale, and tendered to the court a bill of istration to credit the statement.

THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITORS.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty of enclosing a communication from an American Lady, now in London, to the editor of the "Times," which contains a bright idea in reference to the Colonization enterprise, and which perhaps you may not have before observed. If spreeable to your idea of fitness, please copy it in the Intelligencer. WASHINGTON, MAY 25, 1858.

From the London Times of May 5.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.
SIR: Having noticed the arrival in London of Mrs. Stowe, and desirous of making a proposition to her, and knowing the difficulty which a simple American "sister," temporarily resident in the metropolis, would encounter in gaining access to the lordly mansion whose hospitali-ties she at present enjoys, and, moreover, considering that the "Times" is alike welcome at the palace and the cottage, I venture to beg a small place in your columns as my "medium."

I have seen it stated that the "twenty-six folio volumes," with the "illuminated address," which was so lately sent to the women of America, contained the signatures of 562,848 English women, each one of whom, we must presume, was earnest in her wish to parsuade us to do what they claim to be right. Now, it would be very unkind and wicked in us to doubt for a moment the true philanthropy of our English "sisters," and that philanthropy, you will acknowledge, must be very shabby which ends in words. Now, what I propose is this: that the various places which were so charitably opened to receive the signatures of this army of ladies be again opened, and each lady who has so kindly given her name should be requested to call again, and subscribe 4s. 2d., which makes our American dollar. This sum, so trifling that

more than half a million of dollars.

There are several of our State Governments which contribute variously from \$3,000 to \$30,000 per annum to remove our colored brethren to Liberia, to the enjoyments and privileges of a free and enlightened government of their advice, give each her dollar, the sum will remove from a "bitter thraidom" to a free country either 11,257 adults or 22,514 children! I know this is a small figure in comparison with the 3,000,000 of our enslaved breth-ren, but, nevertheless, 22,514 human souls is a great

will not, then, these ladies, headed by their illustrious leaders, each send this trifle to the places above desig-nated, to be forwarded to Mrs. Stowe, to be by her handed over to the Rev. William McLain, of Washington, the most excellent and efficient Secretary of the American Colonization Society, to be applied to the purposes of the

ways more manumitted negroes waiting to be taken to Liberia than there are funds in the treasury of the Colonization Society to devote to that purpose. I notice that in the comparatively small State of Maryland (which has lately sent out a large party to Liberia) there are now sixty persons waiting for the means to carry them to the selony, and this notwithstanding the State appropriations and the donations and legacies of the benevolent in

our country.

I will venture to assure the ladies who have so kindly nterested themselves in our behalf, that their advice, backed promptly by their active charity, will do much towards opening hitherto unbelieving ears to their mov-ing appeals, as well as loosing heavy burdens and letting he captive go free.

As I perceive that Mrs. Stowe has already had several

sums placed at her disposal for kindred purposes, I pre-sume she will gladly be the almoner of the bounty of these English "sisters," thus in some little measure compensating to one class of her countrymen for the false imoressions she has made, and the ill blood she has stirred unwittingly, we will hope) towards another.

To show that this proposal is made in good faith, I enclose my card; and, though Mrs. Stowe may not recognise the name, the Professor will not fail to remember it as the same with that of the New England clergyman who, lang syne, gave him the "helping hand," and di-rected his then youthful steps into the paths of learning which he has since so successfully and honestly pur sued. AN AMERICAN SISTER.

UNPARALLELED FORGERY.

FROM THE CLEVELAND HEBALD OF MAY 18. A few days since a homespun, farmer-like looking man,

who gave his name as James Hudson, appeared in Parma, in this county. He represented himself as from Duchess county, New York, where he had recently sold his farm, and claimed to be in search of a new location in this section of the country. Hudson made the acquaintance of Mr. Lewis Warner, examined his farm, which contained 128 said, for the purpose of taking it to Cleveland and examining Peace in Parma, and, under pretence of wishing to write to him on business, obtained his address in his own handwriting. Thus having in his possession Warner's deed and the signatures of Warner and Cogswell. Hudson came to Cleveland and drew up a deed conveying the land to himself, to which he forged the signature of Warner as donor and of Cogswell as certifying justice, adding, for form's sake, those of two witnesses. The date of the deed was May 9th, and the same day it was filed in the Recorder's office for record.

With this apparently indisputable evidence of title to the land, Hudson applied to Thomas Bolton, Esq., of this city, for

a loan of \$1,500, offering mortgage security upon the farm.

Mr. Bolton consented to loan him the amount for four years at ten per cent. annual interest, and a mortgage was drawn up, which Hudson signed and took with him procure the signature of his wife. On Tuesday he presented the mortgage properly signed and acknowledged—the signatures of his wife, the justice, and one witness, forgeries, of course—and received the \$1,500 from Mr. Bolton.

Yesterday, 17th, Mr. Warner came to the city and inquired Hudson, saying he had agreed to sell Hudson his and he thought it time the papers were executed. Meeting with Mr. Bolton, the facts stated above were ascertained, and Mr. Warner pronounced the deed a forgery.

So shrewd and perfectly-executed a piece of rascality has

not recently occurred in this vicinity; and the forger having a week the start of law, officers, and lightning, it is but barely possible that he will be overtaken by either of them.

"SILENCE IN THE COURT."-A few years since a certain Sheriff of one of the eastern counties of Massachusetts was rather prone to napping after his good dinner, but was always ready at a moment's warning to preserve "silence in the couft." One summer day, when the weather was rather warm, and a prosy lawyer was stretching out to an interminable length a soporific argument upon a very stupid case, the Sheriff indulged in an unusually deep snooze. Owing to the drywas no danger or his being required to perform any of the functions of his office, the Sheriff napped the mountain soundly. He breathed deeply and regularly as if his dinner did not dis turb him. Gradually he breathed louder, but the sound pro-duced no other effect than to add to the drowsiness of some of the unfortunate jurors who were already inclined to slumber by the dull sound of the lawyer's voice. Suddenly, however, the worthy Sheriff gave a loud snore, so loud that it awake himself, and immediately rising from his seat, before he had got his eyes well opened, he thundered his fist down on his desk,

and called out in his deepest and most impressive tones, "Silence in-court!" His command, however, had just the

brought home the last Indian mail performed the dis-tance between Malta and Alexandria, eight hundred and shortest time the voyage was ever performed in, and she must have averaged twelve miles an hour to have done it gives speed, because steamers of such enormous length as the Bengal, which is nearly three hundred and twenty feet long, have not to breast every wave. All persons terested in the screw, and who have watched the performance of the Bengal, have pronounced that the days of paddle box steamers are numbered, and that they supplanted by screw-steamers as effectually as the mail coach has been supplanted by the railroad.

[Liverpool (Eng.) paper.

IMPORTANT DECISION .-- In the case of Homans vs. Easby, tried in the Circuit Court of this District on the 17th ment; and, although the most liberal, and holding instant, the Court decided, in regard to advertised notices of tax sales, that the words of the charter, which reads once in each week for at least twelve successive weeks,' means twelve full and complete weeks' notice; that is, that twelve full weeks must intervene between the time of the first advertised notice of the sale and the day of sale. This decision affects the title of all persons who hold Corporation titles for property sold for taxes on the though we have more fully carried out the plan: 15th of November, 1848. The counsel for the defendant contended that the advertised notice of the sale having been inserted in the National Intelligencer once a week for twelve successive weeks, the requirements of the charter had been complied with, notwithstanding twelve full weeks' time had not elapsed between the first insertion exceptions. The case will therefore go the Supreme Court of the United States.—Republic.

WASHINGTON.

" Liberty and Union, new and forever, one and

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1853.

REFERENCE OF LEGISLATIVE POWERS TO

Within the last few weeks we have had almost simultaneously coming to us from three or four States of the Confederacy, divided by thousands of miles distance, including some of the oldest and some of the very latest of its members, a series of decisions on subject-matters entirely unconnected with each other, all consentaneous and affirming the same point of law, from Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States. That point is, the unconstitutionality of the reference of any law to the People in their primary assemblies for enactment or ratification, and the absolute nullity of any law o enacted, ratified, or ordered to be referred.

We have never ourselves entertained a doubt that such a course of proceeding was absolutely unconstitutional; in the first place, as directly at variance with the first section of the first article of the Constitution of the United States; and out of all keeping, in the second place, with the known character of our institutions and with the traditional character of all representative Governments.

Of pure democracies the world has seen but few, and the character and proceedings of those it has seen are not such as to cuconrage the revival of such, even if they were possible for any community too large to admit of an assemblage of all her male voting population at a single time, and in a single place, where they may hear, debate, and decide all questions whatsoever, whether legislative, executive,

Such a Government was the Athenian Republic, n which every possible question, from the election of magistrates, the ratification of treaties, not the declaration only of wars, but their conduct and the appointment of their generals, down to the enactment of the most trivial sumptuary law, and the punishment or acquittal of the paltriest prisoner was left to the people in their primary assemblies.

A pure democracy assumes that every individual f the community has equal capacity, equal leisure, equal genius, and equal aptitude to be himself judge, general, diplomatist, law-giver, statesman, governor, and to play the part of such to the credit and benefit of his country.

A representative government, whether republican or monarchical, affirms the equal right of every qualified voter-whether its suffrage be universal or conditional-to have an influence over and to give or deny his assent to enactments on all these questions, and others incidental to the government of the country, but denies and repudiates the idea of his equal capacity, leisure, genius, and aptitude, ex ipso facto, to fill in person every office and deal of his own knowledge and power with every

The mass is sufficiently wise, honest, prudent, capable to choose at their own pleasure such individuals as they believe capable to represent them in these various capacities; and to their counsels, guidance, eading, governance, they commit their welfare for such periods and under such conditions as they esteem sufficient to secure their liberties and in-

To this man they grant it to be their executive; to these to exercise all legislative power; to these acres, and agreed to purchase it for \$5,000. He procured from Mr. Warner a written agreement to this effect eigned by him, and also the deed which gave him (Warner) title, as he wond their expenses and direct their savendance; but my follow up the relley to the Middle river crossing Care they no more claim the right to order, in tumultu ous primary meetings, other than their regular assemblages for electional purposes, the declaration of this war, or the enactment of this law, than they claim to direct the leader of their forces how to set his regiments in the field, or the captains of their ships which way to put their helms in a hurricane.

> A representative government surrounds and protects itself by a series of elaborate checks and balances. Dreading its own liability to excitements, impulses, rash legislation, or yet rasher execution, it voluntarily deprives itself of certain powers which it commits to its own chosen delegates. Dreading the possibility of their liability also to this inherent human weakness, it erects a further bar to hasty action, by causing every question to be originated and debated by one, again debated by a second, and finally passed on by a third power of the State, before it becomes lawful to act upon it. In like manner, with its judiciary, it institutes a series of courts to which, in case of error, causes may be successively appealed, in order to preserve itself from the fatal consequences of rash judgment.

A pure democracy, in the reverse of all this consults, legislates, condemns, declares war, acts once, and at a single movement, time, and place, impetuously, undoubtingly, irreversibly.

Had Athens been a representative State instead of a naked democracy, Socrates and Phocion would not have quaffed the fatal hemlock; Themistocles and Xenophon would not have died in the service of the stranger; Demosthenes had not perished in exile, nor Cleon led her armies to disgrace before Am-

"Silence in-court!" His command, however, had just the contrary effect; for the judge, jury, lawyers, and all joined in a hearty laugh at the worthy Sheriff, who thus reproved his own nose for disturbing his slumbers.—Norfolk Co. Jour. Had Rome been a pure democracy instead of representative republic, she would have made submission to Hannibal after the fatal field of Cannæ; she would have punished Varro, instead of thanking him "that he had not despaired of the republic: she would not have had twenty legions, not less than in the time. There is no doubt that this steamer, the one hundred thousand men, in the field in the year largest at present in the world, can run, under very favora- following that terrible defeat, when her male citizens were reduced to two hundred and seventy thousand only, nor would she ever have been styled the mistress of the world.

> Such are emphatically the differences between a free representative republic and a pure democracy. The former we believe to be the very best, the latter to be nearly the most vicious of all governments.

> The Government of the United States, is by principle, in theory, in fact, a representative governthe fewest checks on the liberty of the individual, having indeed cast away all property qualification, and rejoicing in universal suffrage, is not much nearer to being a pure democracy than England herself. The principle is the same in both instances. the election by the masses of the heads and hands which shall hold the reins, not the impulsive and inexperienced charioteering of the primary majori-

ties. Those who have thought or written of us othernor the principles, theories, facts of our constitution. sail upon Kimball's Pond.

A representative republic we are; and because we are so, and because we earnestly pray that we may ever continue so, and because we solemnly deprecate and detest all rule of mob majorities, we greatly rejoice at these recent decisions, truly righteous, and we trust determinate, that "all re ference of legislative powers to the people in their primary meetings is contrary to the Constitution of the United States." Esto perpetua!

FACTS WORTH REMEMBERING.

The Administration of Mr. FILLMORE was signally abused by the Democratic organs, especially by the "Union" in Washington, for its "extravagance," waste of the public money," "profusion," &c. No Administration was ever purer, not even that of GEORGE WASHINGTON and JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the purest we ever had; but it was, nevertheless, pronounced extravagant and corrupt, just as John Quincy Adams's was. Time, however, Facts and Figures, in the end, set all right with the intelligent mind.

The Register of the Treasury has officially certified the following :

Statement of the Amount of Estimates transmitted by the Sacre tary of the Treasury, and of the Appropriations made by Congress, for the service of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1851 and 1852.

	June 30, 1851.		June 30, 1852.	
	Estimates.	Approp'ns.	Estimates.	Approp'ns.
ivil lis discellacous foreigrintercourse ensicis ndianDepartment thick-saw fund filliary establishment, exchasive of surveys,	\$2,888,645 10,309,535 308,900 2,256,713 2,560,966	2,272,043	3,159,248 3,554,900	
fortifications, and in- ternal improvements - curveys - cortifications -	7,772,198 65,000 754,800		120,000	8,010,971 28,967
nternal improvements, including lighthouses - Savallestablishment - Iarine corps - twarks - mittsonian Institution	1,099,080 9,203,856 871,722	104,024 9,199,924 371,722 120,620 11,197	7,760,560 351,041	21,498 7,502,041 351,001 42,000 13,996
uble debt · · · ·	37,680,017 4,285,850	47,162,506 4,231,116 220,725	33,667,489	38,162,262 6,272,585 46,600
In the same	41,915,868	51,614,348	33,667,489	44,481,447

N. SARGENT, Register. TREASURY DEPARTMENT. REGISTER'S OFFICE, MARCH 2, 1853.

Thus it will be seen that the estimates of the Fillmore Administration for the fiscal year 1850-'51 Appropriations by a Democratic Con-47,162,506

Democrats appropriated over what the Fillmore Administration asked Fillmore Administration asked, 1851

- \$33,667,489 and 1852 - - -Democratic Congress appropriated - 38,162,262 Appropriated over Fillmore's asking -

So a Democratic Congress in two years gave Fillmore more than he asked - \$13.987.262 Is not further comment unnecessary? But it should be remarked that Congress gave nothing for the defence of the country—nothing for fortifications, though he asked in 1852 \$739,300-and little or nothing for internal improvements, to bring out the resources of the country, though the President asked \$1,155,778. Much of the money Congress gave was wanted in the Indian Department, and otherwise. - New York Express.

MARYLAND TAXES AND IMPROVEMENTS. The Senate of Maryland on Saturday passed the bill reducing the State tax from twenty-five to fifteen cents on the one hundred dollars, and, as the bill had previously passed the House, it is now a law.

Among the railroad bills which have passed both houses is one to incorporate the Howard Railroad Company. This road is to start from a point at the Annapolis junc. mand their armies and direct their squadrons; but ry, follow up the valley to the Middle river, crossing Car-Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Ridgeville, Carroll county. Such is stated as the general route; but there have been two or three suggested, varying more or less, according to the interests of those who advocate them. I

is thought the distance will not exceed thirty miles. On Saturday the Senate passed two railroad bills-one for the Elysville road and the other for the Maryland and Central road. The latter is for making a road, by the straightest line, from Baltimore to Hagerstown, and the former a road from Elysville, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, to the eastern section of Baltimore .- Patriot.

Boston Munificence.-In our sketch of the life and character of the late Robert G. Shaw, Esq., we mentioned that his donations for charitable purposes during his life amounted to the sum of four hundred thousand dollars. In his will he has made a donation which will add to the just estimate we formed of his character and sagacity. He has endowed a new institution for a class in the community not distinctly embraced in existing charities. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars is bequeathed in his will as a fund to be appropriated for the benefit of destitute mariner's children. The same is to be known as the "Shaw Fund," and is to be placed at interest by trustees until it shall amount to four hundred thousand dollars A donation of a further sum of ten thousand dollars lars is made for the purchase of a site for the institution. We take great pleasure in recording this munificent donation for the benefit of the children of sailors. It was most fitting that the institution should be founded by a merchant, and what nobler monument could be raised in Boston to the character and comprehensive liberality of the

late ROBERT GOULD SHAW? The will of Mr. Shaw makes legacies to other public institutions, as follows:

To the Boston Fatherless and Widows' Society The Widows' Society in Boston Boston Children's Friend Society.. Boston Seaman's Friend Society....... Society for Aged and Infirm Females. Boston Marine Society .. Howard Benevolent Society. Society for Aged and Destitute Clergymen.

The Merchants' Exchange property in the city of New York sold a year ago under foreclosure of mortgage for \$805,000, and reorganized under a new charter with a capital of \$1,000,000, has paid 64 per cent. for the first year, and the improved ren:als will, it is said, pay at least 8 per cent. for the coming year.

these materials fed the fire, until the conflagration bedistance ; nor could the fierceness of the flames be arrested until the house was totally destroyed, one entire side of the immense structure falling into the river. We regret to learn that the loss to the company will amount to full \$40,000, on which no insurance had been effected. during the conflagration, and still more rapidly melting nder the smouldering ruins.—N. Y. Com. Advertiser.

FATAL RESULT OF A LIGHTNING STROKE. - We learn a store-house in that vicinity. At the time three persons were seated on a sofa on the ground floor. One of them. to be dead; and a third is still suffering from the stroke.

Mr. JOHN PORTER, jr. and Mr. CHARLES MOSELY, each about 25 years of age, and both of Newburyport, (Mass.) were drowned at West Amesbury (Mass.) on Friday last

FOREIGN APPOINTMENTS

We understand that the following foreign appointments, some of which have been announced already, have been made by the PRESIDENT, and that other objects of pressing attention prevent his bestowing any further consideration at present upon the efficiency of the Navy, as if enough had not appointments of this class:

JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania, Minister Plenipo tentiary to Great Britain. JOHN APPLETON, of Maine, Secretary of Legation.

PIERRE Soule, of Louisiana, Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain.

THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, of Connecticut, Minister Pleni otentiary to Russia. JAMES GADSDEN, of South Carolina, Minister Plenipo-

of Legation. PETER D. VROOM, of New Jersey, Minister Plenipoteniary to Prussia.

SOLON BORLAND, of Arkansas, Minister Plenipotentiary o Central America. F. A. BEELEN, of Pennsylvania, Secetary of Legation.

WM. TROUSDALE, of Tennessee, Minister Plenipoten tiary to Brazil. SAMUEL MEDARY, of Ohio, Minister Plenipotentiary t

JOHN R. CLAY, (late Chargé d'Affaires in Peru, and fornerly Secretary of Legation in Russia and Austria,) Minister Plenipotentiary to Peru.

THEODORE S. FAY, (long Secretary of Legation at Ber lin,) Minister Resident in Switzerland.

CHARGES D'AFFAIRES.

J. J. SEIBLES, of Alabama, for Belgium. August Belmont, of New York, for the Netherlands. RICHARD K. MEADE, of Virginia, for Sardinia. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, of Massachusetts, for Bolivi HENRY R. JACKSON, of Georgia, for Austria. ROBERT D. OWEN, of Indiana, for the Two Sicilies. HENRY BEDINGER, of Virginia, for Denmark. WM.-H. BISSELL, of Illinois, for Buenos Ayres. JAMES L. GREENE, of Missouri, for New Granada. SHELTON F. LEAKE, of Virginia, Commissioner to the Hawaiian Islands.

CONSULS. CHARLES L. DENMAN, of California, at Acapulco. EDWARD DE LEON, of South Carolina, at Alexandria. DAVID S. LEE, of Iowa, at Basle. ALFRED GILMORE, of Pennsylvania, at Bordeaux. JOHN W. Howdin, of Ohio, at Bermuda. WILLIAM HILDEBRAND, of Wisconsin, at Bremen. DENNIS MULLEN, of New York, at Cork. M. J. LYNCH, of Illinois, at Dublin. W. H. DEWOLF, of Rhode Island, at Dundee. ALEX. M. CLAYTON, of Mississippi, at Havana. JAMES KEENAN, of Pennsylvania, at Hong Kong. BENJ. F. ANGELL, of New York, at Honolulu. S. M. Johnson, of Michigan, at Hamburgh. GEORGE W. CHASE, of Maine, at Lahaina. NATH. HAWTHORNE, of Massachusetts, at Liverpool. JAMES M. TARLETON, of Alabama, at Melbourne. Thos. W. WARD, of Texas, at Panama. DUNCAN R. McRAE, of North Carolina, at Paris. ROBT. G. Scott, of Virginia, at Rio de Janeiro. CHARLES J. HELM, of Kentucky, at St. Thomas. WM. B. PLATO, of Illinois, at Talcabuano. WYNDHAM ROBERTSON, of Louisiana, at Trieste. JOHN HUBBARD, of Maine, at Trinidad de Cuba. REUBEN WOOD, of Ohio, at Valparaiso. DONALD G. MITCHELL, of Connecticut, at Venice. GEO. F. GOUNDI, of Pennsylvania, at Zurich.

NAVAL .- The U. S. steamship Princeton, having com oleted her repairs and alterations at the Gosport Navy Yard, started down on Thursday on a trip to the Capes for the purpose of testing her machinery. After her proceeding as far as Old Point the rock shaft gave way, and she was compelled to remain there until Friday, when the bill itself was hurried through Congress with a haste she was towed up by the steamer Georgia. It is due to the and precipitancy calculated to arouse suspicion that its Gosport Iron Works to state that the machinery which projectors were not over anxious to court a calm, delibegave way was not made there.

The following officers have been ordered to assemble at Senior Class of Midshipmen : Commodore C. S. McCauley, Captain James Armstrong, Captain Thomas W. Wyman Commander Chas. Lowndes, Commander G. A. Magruder. The Norfolk Argus states that Mr. Dobbin, the Secretary of the Navy, contemplates leaving the seat of gov- if they had understood it they would not have supported dence in North Carolina to arrange his private affairs, character of the means which have been employed to jusand that he will take Norfolk in his route, stopping for a tify the innovation, we have but to point to the following day or two for the purpose of making an official visit to article in the National Intelligencer of the 3d instant: the Gosport Navy Yard, and also to inspect the vessels of the exploring squadron for the North Pacific, &c., now.

rendezvoused in that harbor. A letter dated Marseilles, May 3d, states that the United States steamer San Jacinto broke down on the 19th April, off the Straits of Messina, her starboard engine becoming disabled, and she had to return to Naples on the 20th with one engine.

The New York Journal of Commerce says that a tele graphic despatch received by Commodore Boarman directs the steamer Vizen, now at the Brooklyn navy yard, to be held in readiness for service at the shortest notice. It is rumored that she is to sail shortly for Halifax. Her lestination was originally the coast of Africa.

Ladies are not permitted to enter the Paris Bourse during business hours. They were formerly admitted; but, as it was found to encourage a passion for gambling in stocks, they are not now allowed to enter .- Exchange,

The press is quite facetious over the accounts of the flare-up between the temperance men and the temperance women. Indeed, it is hardly possible for one to do otherwise than smile when the Ladies are the subject of comment or action. The gravity becoming to transactions and intercourse with the sterner sex is unsuited to conversation with or about Ladies, who always have a sunny smile for us when we retire from studies, counting-houses, or work-shops, and seek recuperation at our homes. Alas for us, when we shall no longer find our wives, daughters, and sisters ready to meet us at the threshold with the endearments we have been accustomed to; but must wrangle with them upon the rostrum, compete with them in the arts of money-making, and argue with them in the courts. In this view of the subject, we decline to encourage her appearance "in public on the stage." We had rather have her approving look, her applauding smile, among the upturned faces that greet us in the audience, than to hear a woman's voice uttering axioms and practising syllogisms in the forum. Be content, good ladies, to let the men bear the corrosions of public life, and keep your hearts clear of every thing but love. Contests, such as some of you seem to covet, beget envyings, sourcess of temper, and bitterness of spirit, and to you heart-breaking is already too common. We cannot consent to cheer you on in this new career .- Rochester Democrat.

"SIC TRANSIT," &c .- All that was left to sell inside ICE-HOUSE DESTROYED BY LIGHTNING.—The severe storm of Wednesday evening was attended by disastrous effects at Rockland Lake. A large ice-house, the property of John D. Ascough & Co., containing about the property cost of the superh chandelies. effects at Bockland Lake. A large ice-house, the property of John D. Ascough & Co., containing about twelve thousand tons of ice, was struck by lightning and set on fire it to be put up? Mr. John Duer bought the fifty-four The ice in this house was of a peculiarly fine quality, and had been laid up in a previous year, very carefully packed common chair; and Kimball, of the Boston Museum, got in salt, hay, sawdust, &c. The combustible character of all the red plush arm-chairs in the parquette for \$90 Niblo went in to the tune of some \$300 came so great as to illumine the atmosphere to an immense | the plumbing work, put in at a cost of \$2,000, or there-\$1,800) fell to Mr. Johnson for \$70, and that superbly painted pair of curtains, act, and drop were allowed to go to a liquor-dealer to adorn a bar-room. And this is full \$40,000, on which no insurance had been effected. at least the third dismantling of an Italian Opera House Of course, most of the ice is lost, much being destroyed which has happened in New York within our time.

"STRIKE."-On Wednesday last the laborers and alongshoremen at Atlantic Dock, Brooklyn, struck for an adfrom Quebec that on Monday night last lightning atruck vance of two shillings per day in wages. They had been paid ten shillings and demanded twelve shillings. The Custom-House did not accede to their demand, a young lady of twenty, named Madam Villeneuve, was dered new hands employed at the Bonded Warehouses killed instantly; a second was paralyzed and is reported and also sent men over from New York. An advertise dered new hands employed at the Bonded Warehouses, ment likewise appeared in the newspapers of Thursday calling for "fifty laborers to be employed at 44 Atlantic Dock." The appearance of new laborers exasperated Dock." The appearance of new inborers exasperated the old ones, and the consequence has been a succession of confusions and mobs. On Thursday, Friday, and wise, understand neither the genius of our people, by the upsetting of a boat in which they were enjoying a Saturday evenings the men were even beaten and stone and made to promise never to return for work.

DEMAGOGISM IN THE NAVY.

Few of our readers are probably aware that, after all that was attempted at the late Session of Congress in the way of what is called "Reform" in the lately been done in that direction by the almost total abolition of discipline on board of the National Marine. We were not indeed ourselves aware of it, and should not yet have known of it, but for our attention having been called by a respectable Democratic gentleman (a civilian) to the contents of the following article, which we now republish at his instance, from a neighboring journal friendly to tentiary to Mexico. John CRIPS, of California, Secretary the ruling party in the Government. FROM THE "ALEXANDRIA AGE."

CHANGE IS NOT IMPROVEMENT .- In this age of progress every pursuit in life, whether political, scientific, moral, or religious, is so completely subjected to the spirit of change and innovation, that for any system of rules designed for the healthful regulation of the business economy of life to be condemned it is sufficient now-a-days that it is branded with a soubriquet of antiquity. Let any system be called old, and it matters not how deeply its foundations may be laid in the wisdom and experience of mankind, or how ruinous its overthrow may be to the best interests of society and the happiness of the human race. it is instantly seized upon by the reckless and rapacious hands of the innovator, and its demolition as eagerly pursued, as if the largest good to the world was to result from the gratification of his diseased but unappeasable appetite. At the risk of being classed in the category of old fogies, and of incurring all the censure which has been heaped upon the heads of that respectable but abused class of American statesmen, we would raise our warning voice against the disorganizing and destructive spirit of the times, and urge upon those who stand at the helm of affairs to resist with manly and patriotic purpose all such attempts to overturn the foundations of our political safety. These remarks are suggested by an act of Congress, passed in the last night of the last session of the National Legislature, the object of which is so to reorganize the various Bureaus of the Navy Department that hereafter the control and direction of these important branches of the public service shall be taken from the hands of cuptains and commodores of the navy, where it seems most fitly to belong, and transferred to those of naval contractors and engineers. Now, although we are not familiar with the history of American legislation upon this subject, yet we believe that the very principle embodied in the law upon which we are commenting was discarded more than ten years ago, as being obnoxious to the self-same objections which are now urged against the bureau system. The Board of Navy Commissioners which had existed prior to 1842, if we remember aright, was arraigned, tried, and condemned under a bill of indictment, alleging that it was both an inefficient and extravagant concern; and yet, with all the evils of that system fresh in the recollection of the people, and in the face of the acknowledged fact that the system which supplanted it and now exists has given birth to a marine steam machinery which serves as a model for imitation by all the great nations of the earth, it is gravely proposed that we shall undo all the good that has been accomplished thereby, and, for the sake of depriving our commodores of snug berthe in "the gay metropolis," put another batch of commissioners in their

This is, indeed, a strange proposition, not only from the history of this movement, but we judge, from the tone and character of the articles we have lately read upon the subject, that a desire to promote private ends has had fully as much to do with the proposed innovation as the accomplishment of the public good. In the first place, rate, thorough, and well-considered investigation of its merits by the National Legislature. It passed at the last Annapolis on the 1st of June for the examination of the night of the session, and many no doubt voted for it without thoroughly understanding the objects sought to be attained by it. We have heard that several of the Senators have since expressed their disapprobation of the change contemplated by the new law, and hesitate not to say that it. But more on this point hereafter. In regard to the

> "We have just noticed that in the letter of the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer of the 24th ultimo it is stated that-

> " Intelligence has been received of an accident to the steamer Susquehanna, the fastest in the navy, which will probably disable her from proceeding to Japan with the rest of the squadron. She broke her shaft in February last, and it was doubtful whether she would be able to return home for repair. I would not draw a general conclusion unfavorable to any branch of the naval service from an isolated case disaster; but it is an undeniable truth that every steam vesse that has come from the han is of the Governm

" Unfortunately for the interests of the people of these United States in general, as well as for the this statement, no portion of the machinest-builders and quehanna was constructed by 'Government-builders and machinests;' and we further confidently state, contrary as machinests;' and the popular belief, founded upon daily misrepresentation, that no marine steam-machinery which has come from the hands of 'Government-builders and machinists' 'has ever been followed by a train of misfor-

"The machinery of the Susquehanna, whatever its quality, is the fruit of a system which would not for a moment bear the investigation of the American people; a system which benefits no class nor any individual but the contractor; but which constantly hazards the safety of our ships, perils the lives of their crews, and jeopards the honor of our flag. In England, when steam was first introduced into the 'fleet,' steam-engine building was already long established by private enterprise, and the Adready long established by private enterprise miralty, of necessity, at first had recourse to these estaents; but long since, for obvious reasons, all repairs have ceased to be made except at the national dock-yards, and there is now being completed at Daven-port a large establishment for the construction of engines France, in like manner, does nearly all her own work; and we believe there is too much reason to apprehend that, until we profit by their example, we shall still see our steam frigates 'followed by a train of misfortune.'"

Now, here it will be observed that, although the Washngton correspondent of the New York Courier is evidently very hard pressed even for an isolated case of disaster, he nevertheless unmistakably betrays the motive which lies at the bottom of this attempt to popularize the new law. The heads of the bureaus are the objects aimed at; and, if a decided public disapprobation of their course could be evoked from the dark caverns of prejudice and selfishness, the contractors or constructors sought to be advantaged thereby may be snugly enscenced in the berths vacated by those unjustly assailed public officers. We have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Commodores SKINNER, SHUBRICK, SMITH, and Mornis, and from our knowledge of the intelligence. high-toned, and honorable bearing of those distinguished naval officers, we would be loth to give credit, even if the history of the country was silent on the subject, to any statement from any quarter which would justify the assaults that have been made upon the administration of their respective bureaus. We are not ignorant of the fidelity with which they have watched over the high trusts committed to their hands, and could, if necessary, illustrate it by detailing instances of the firmness they have exhibited in resisting the introduction of certain improvements proposed for the navy, which looked more to the advancement of the pecuniary interests of inventors than to the good of the country. We trust, therefore, that the Executive of the Nation

will receive with all caution the appeals that may be made for the execution of the new law. No injury could result from suspending its operations until the next session of Congress, when full time will be afforded for a thorough investigation of the whole subject.

THE VANDERBILT STEAM-YACHT "NORTH STAR," having been docked, was found to have received less injury than was supposed. Four hours only were required to make the necessary repairs, and she left New York for Europe on Friday.